

March 29, 2012

Gallatin County Commissioners
311 W. Main, Room 306
Bozeman, MT 59715

RE: CIPC 2013 Application Recommendations

Dear Commissioners:

At our March 28, 2012 CIP meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend the attached priority ranking of the applications submitted for FY 2013. We provide the following comment on the ranking:

- 2008-04 (L&J Center) – As with previous years, a new “Law and Justice Center” campus complex remains the CIPC’s top priority. We appreciate the funding that has been put towards this project in the last couple years and encourage the Commission to continue to make steps towards making this project reality with continued budget consideration in FY 2013.
- 2010-03 (Guenther Center Project) – It is our understanding that the Facilities Department is able to accommodate much of this project within its own budget. We encourage the Commission to supplement this where possible in order to complete this project in the near future.
- Fairgrounds applications – The ranking for the Fairgrounds applications does not accurately reflect the priorities of the Fair Manager or Fair Board. The CIPC ranked the paved trail project along Oak Street ahead of all other Fairgrounds applications due to the safety aspect and providing a safe place for all pedestrians, and in particular children, to travel along the north side of the Fairgrounds. Many of the Fairgrounds applications were not requesting funding from the Capital Improvement fund. However, the trail project is in need of approximately \$15,000 to complete this project and if funds are available, we encourage the Commission to consider budgeting funds to allow completion of this project.
- Finance Application – Core Rolling Stock – The CIPC determined that it was unnecessary for us to rank this project simply because it is our understanding that the Commission has already made the decision to fund this “plan” from the capital funds.
- 2013-02 and 2013-03 (L&J Center applications) – The CIPC did not rank these two applications because they appeared to be duplicating the District Court Judge’s application 2008-04 with a division of the project. We preferred to leave it as one project as it has been considered in previous years.

We appreciate your consideration of our FY 2013 recommendations. We understand the economy and current budgetary issues for the County are such that limited additional capital funding will be available in the upcoming year. We believe that it is imperative, however, that the Commission continues to keep the infrastructure needs of the County at the forefront of its budget considerations so that our facilities do not fall into further disrepair and further burden the taxpayers unnecessarily in the future.

Sincerely,



David Weaver
Chair, CIPC